



Minutes of the April 7, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting

Present: Bob Carlson (Chairman), Dan Cunningham (Vice Chairman), Tom DeVivo, Cheryl Blanchard, John Salomone, Lenny Bunnell.

SECOG staff: Amanda Kennedy, Kate Rattan, Helen Zincavage.

1) Call to Order:

- a) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carlson at 9:01 AM.

2) Roll Call:

- a) Ms. Kennedy determined that a quorum was present.

3) 2025 Audit:

- a) Amanda Kennedy presented the 2025 Audit.

The audit was clean, though it noted a recurring timing issue where the state requires financial reporting by October 1, before audited indirect rates are finalized. Kennedy plans to address this next year to avoid future findings. A tracker sheet showed a five-year trend of increased funding and staff growth. The indirect rate has decreased due to a higher number of direct employees spreading out administrative costs. Kennedy expressed a need for increased administrative support in the future. The SECOG accounting is handled by Tim Ashburner and Associates. No formal action was required as the audit has already been submitted to the state.

4) Program Updates:

- a) Emergency Management: Mark Paquette is retiring as the contracted consultant for the Regional Emergency Planning Team on June 30. SECOG has posted a position for a half-time grants administrator to manage DEMHS grants and other complex transportation and planning reporting.

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b) Regional Planning (Housing): Helen Zincavage reported on ongoing housing meetings with local Planning and Zoning Commissions. An allocation policy steering committee meeting is scheduled for April 8 to discuss regional affordable housing goals. Michelle Maitland will join SECOG on Thursday as the Regional Stormwater and Watersheds Coordinator.

c) Transportation Planning:

Safety Action Plan: Because the final version was not yet ready, the Committee agreed to bypass executive recommendation and send the plan directly to the full board on April 15. This urgency is due to the Safe Streets for All grant application deadline in early June.

TIP/CMP: The Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) is expected for adoption next month.

Staffing: Victoria Jaskaran resigned for a position at DEEP; SECOG is currently interviewing for a replacement.

5) TIP Amendments:

<u>0028-0211</u>	RBC Program, Resurfacing, Bridge Rehab and Safety Improvements (breakout of 0028-0207)
<u>0058-0341</u>	Modern Roundabouts at I-95 Interchange NB and SB Ramps and Sandy Hollow Road
<u>0172-0549</u>	Traffic Signal Safety Improvements

MOTION: to recommend that SECOG MPO Board endorse the three TIP amendments. (Blanchard, Bunnell) *Motion passed unanimously.*

6) Potential Speakers:

a) Coast Guard Academy: The visit is rescheduled for June. The Committee discussed security and "Real ID" requirements for public access during this meeting.

b) Eversource: A leadership conversation is being planned, but the timing remains TBD.

- c) CT Port Authority: Michael O'Connor is tentatively scheduled for April 15 to discuss the New London State Pier shore power project and general authority business.

7) Discussion:

- a) Shared Services: Members discussed the history and potential for shared regional tax collection services and available state grants through the Regional Performance Incentive Program.
- b) Legislative Advocacy: Chairman Carlson highlighted a CCM effort to restore the Mashantucket Pequot fund and encouraged members to contact Brian O'Connor to add their names in support.

8) Adjournment:

- a) MOTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 am (Cunningham, Bunnell)
Motion passed unanimously.